

[Springfield (Springfield Center), Otsego Co.]

### Catlin Memorial Church

The Catlin Memorial church at Springfield Center was formally dedicated Tuesday afternoon, the exercises occurring at 2 o'clock. The edifice was erected by E. N. Catlin, the famous composer and orchestra leader of Boston, in memory of his beloved wife, Kit Shipman, and is dedicated to the Universalist faith, in which Mrs. Catlin was a zealous and faithful believer. It occupies the site of the old Universalist Church, which was consumed by fire in 1899. The design is a very attractive one, the field stone base and stained shingled sides making it a very picturesque structure. The windows are of stained glass and were donated by parishioners and members of neighboring societies. The church organ was given to the society by Madison Vedder of this village, and other articles of the church's furnishings were given in like manner. The dedicatory services were participated in by Rev. Samuel R. Ward of Richfield Springs, Rev. E. A. Perry of Cooperstown, and Rev. Daniel Ballou of Utica. Rev. Mr. Ward gave a very appropriate sermon, during which he paid eloquent tribute to the gracious woman in whose memory the church was erected. The prayer was said by Rev. Daniel Ballou and a short address appropriate to the occasion was given by Rev. E. A. Perry. Miss Ida Canfield, the accomplished soprano of Fort Plain, beautifully rendered a sacred solo. The exercises were highly interesting and the chapel was filled with Universalists who gathered to unite in the ceremonies.

*Richfield Springs Mercury*, Richfield Springs NY, Thu. 1 Aug 1901

Transcribed on 23 Jan 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY